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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, January 27, 2003, at 2 p.m.

Senate

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10, 2003

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Gracious Father, Source of all the blessings of life, You have made us rich spiritually. As we begin this new day, we realize that You have placed in our spiritual bank accounts abundant deposits of soul strength, intellectual acumen, volitional aptitude, and physical agility.

You remind us of Your loving-kindness, You give us the gift of faith to trust You for what we will need to meet today's challenges. You promise to go before us, preparing people and circumstances so we can press on with Your best for America. You open doors previously shut and enable serendipities of success so we can work without strain or stress. You give us the magnificent gifts of wisdom and discernment, vision and vibrant hope.

Bless the Senators as they expect great strength from You and attempt great work for Your glory and for the good of America. You are our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, there will be a period for morning business until noon, with the time equally divided, and Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

It is my hope that an agreement can be reached regarding the committee resolutions on which both sides are working very hard at this juncture. Once these committee resolutions are adopted, the committees will then be able to begin their important and very urgent work addressing the issues surrounding homeland security, the war, health care, our economy, and the important agenda before the American people, an agenda they expect us to address as soon as possible. So I do not want these discussions to progress indefinitely because it is important we begin to address the agenda before us in this 108th Congress.

We are making progress, and I am very hopeful over the course of the morning that discussions will continue and I will be able to report back on the progress and, ultimately, agreement on these committee resolutions. One example is that of the Senate Appropriations Committee which is poised to meet to complete action on the fiscal year 2003 bills which is unfinished business from last year. Before we address our agenda for the coming year in the 108th Congress, both sides of the aisle

made a commitment to finish last year's business.

The importance of proceeding with these committee resolutions is that, as of today, the new Senators do not have committee assignments. Although both sides made the assignments, until we officially adopt the committee resolutions, they are not on any committees in the Senate. It is my hope that this agreement can be reached in short order on the committees and that the resolutions can be agreed to after we agree to it at the leadership level and in our caucuses by voice vote. However, at this time we are not quite there, and I regret to say that rollcall votes are still possible today.

Over the course of the morning, as negotiations continue, I will be back on the floor to advise the Senate about the day's schedule.

Mr. REID. Will the leader yield?

Mr. FRIST. Yes.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I say to the distinguished majority leader that Senator DASCHLE has indicated that he and the majority leader had productive meetings yesterday and that we are very close to working something out on the organizational resolution. I received a call last night from Senator LOTT, the incoming chairman of the Rules Committee, when we get the organizational business done, that he is working on the space problem we have. He has indicated he thinks this can be worked out shortly also.

We hope the leader can come back to the floor later today and indicate to Senators that we have worked out something. It would be good for everyone if we can do that.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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